



UTAH
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

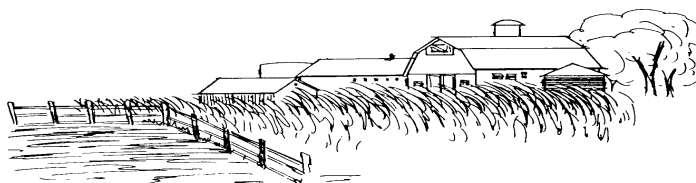
News Release

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Release No: 24-04 Date: June 1, 2004

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Agriculture Prices

Utah: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-May 2004, compared with April 2004, were down for barley, but up for alfalfa hay, and other hay, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lamb price for April 2004 was \$103.00 per cwt, up \$6.00 from May 2003. The April 2004 sheep price, at \$34.00 was \$8.00 above May 2003.

Barley, at \$2.67 per bushel, was down 5 cents from the previous month's price but 13 cents above last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$90.00 per ton, up \$9.00 from last month but \$9.00 below last year. Other hay, at \$75.00 per ton, was \$5.00 higher than last month but \$1.00 lower than May 2003.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May at 132, based on 1990-92=100, is 7 points (5.6 percent) above the April Index. This is the highest index level since records began in 1910. The Livestock Products Index, also at a record high, increased 9 points (7.1 percent) from April while the All Crops Index increased 4 points (3.3 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for milk, hogs, cattle, and broilers. Lower prices were received for lettuce, eggs, corn, and tomatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cantaloups, grapes, sweet corn, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, milk, apples, and asparagus. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 27 points (26 percent) from May 2003.

The Food Commodities Index increased 9 points (7.1 percent) from last month to 135. The index stands 31 points (30 percent) above May 2003.

Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		May 2003	Apr 2004	May 2004 ¹	May 2003	Apr 2004	May 2004 ¹
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	97.00	103.00	(²)	97.60	100.00	(²)
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	26.00	34.00	(²)	31.30	37.10	(²)
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	2.54	2.72	2.67	2.91	2.78	2.79
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	99.00	81.00	90.00	100.00	92.70	109.00
Other Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	76.00	70.00	75.00	88.40	76.00	74.90

¹ Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month.

² May data will be published next month.